

A new subspecies of *Iassomorphus drakensteini*
(Naudé, 1926) from Angola (Homoptera,
Cicadellidae, Iassinae)

by

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Iassomorphus drakensteini theroni subsp. nov. is described from material taken in Angola and is compared with the nominate form as well as with *I. drakensteini monticolus* Linnavuori & Quartau, 1975.

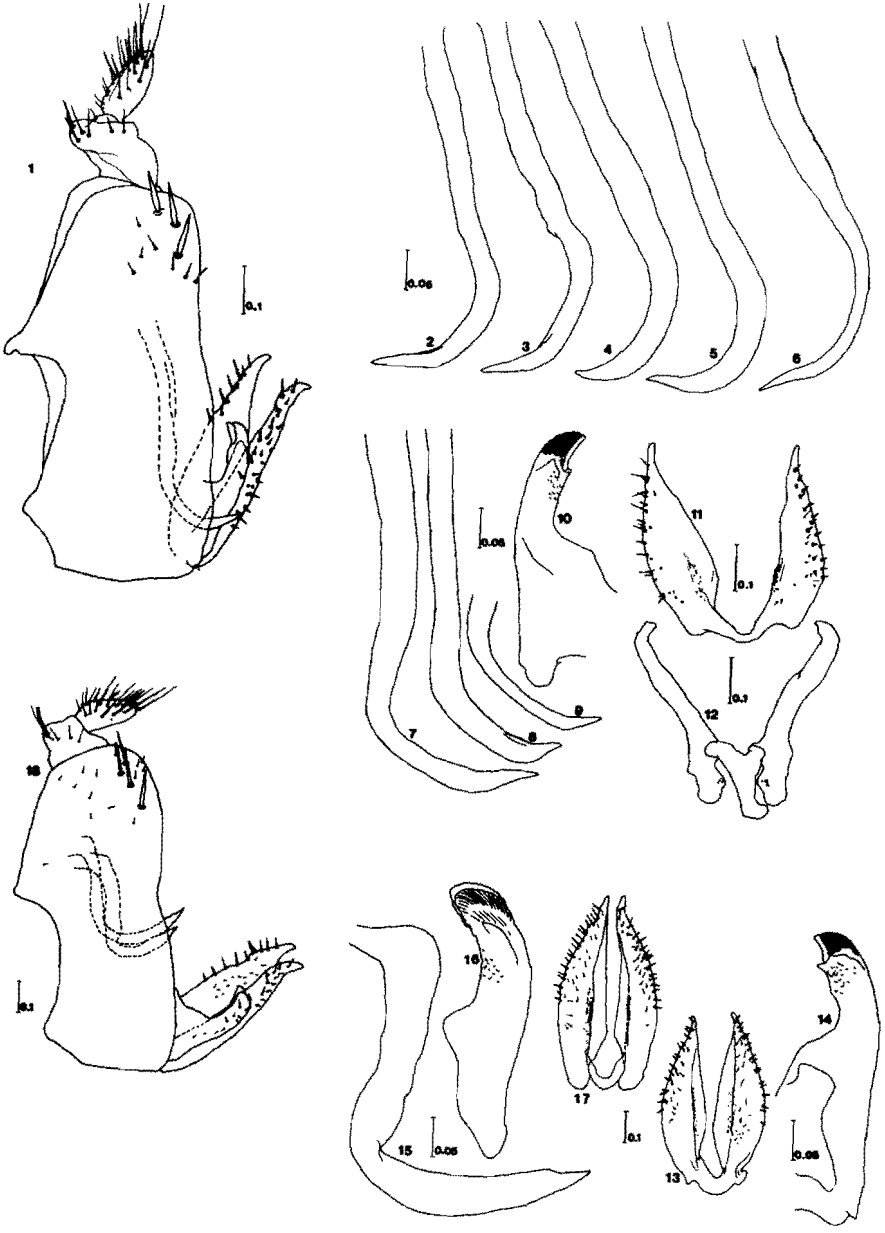
Iassomorphus drakensteini was originally described by Naudé (1926) within *Bythoscopus* Germar from six females and one male collected at Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch (South Africa). The species was placed in the genus *Iassomorphus* by Theron (1972), where detailed and nicely illustrated redescriptions of both *Iassomorphus drakensteini* and *I. cedaranus* (Naudé, 1926) were given. The species was treated again by Linnavuori & Quartau (1975), who described *I. drakensteini monticolus* from mountain areas of NE Africa and they considered material collected in Angola to fall within the nominate form despite differing somewhat from it.

Detailed examination of the Angolan material of *I. drakensteini* studied in Linnavuori & Quartau (1975), together with new specimens taken in Angola by the Southern African Expedition (British Museum of Natural History 1981), have revealed that the Angolan populations warrant subspecific designation.

***Iassomorphus drakensteini theroni* subsp. nov., figs 1–14**

MALE. Length from apex of crown to hind margin of tegmina 4.99–5.58 mm (mean 5.36 mm). General colour yellowish to light brownish in preserved material, as in *I. d. drakensteini*. Crown with 2 small circular dark spots typical of the genus. Pronotum generally with 2 dark spots as in nominate form and 1.15–1.18 × (mean 1.17 ×) as wide at humeral angles as maximum width of crown across eyes. Apex of scutellum typically dark as in the genus. External morphology in other respects as in nominate form.

Each pygophore lobe with 2–5 macrosetae and a few small setae near postero-dorsal edge. Anal tube with a pair of sharply pointed blade-like appendages which curve ventrally and posteriorly at basal level of pygophore lobes instead of at mid-level as in *I. d. drakensteini* (Figs 1 & 18); appendages varying somewhat but always roundedly curved in apical part (Figs 2–9). Subgenital plates with a few short setae along outer



edges and a few minor setae on ventral surface. Styles and connective resembling those of nominate form (Fig 12). Aedeagus stout and forked apically as in nominate form but with a small denticle dorsally between the two apical lamellae (Figs 10 & 14).

FEMALE. One female collected at Duque de Bragança Falls, Angola, measuring 6.72 mm, similar to the males described above but without the pair of dark spots on pronotum and with pronotum robust (1.25 × as broad as maximum width of crown across eyes), may belong in this subspecies, despite its larger size. Seventh abdominal sternite is slightly sinuate at mid-line as in the nominate form.

HABITAT. Known so far only from Angolan woodlands dominated by *Brachystegia spiciformis* Benth., *B. tamarindoides* Welw. and *Acacia sieberiana* DC.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype, ♂: ANGOLA: 7 mls W. Gabela, 16–18.iii.1972, Southern African Expedition, B.M. 1972–I (BMNH). Paratypes: 1 ♂, Duque de Bragança Falls, 11–12.iii.1972, at light, Southern African Expedition, B.M. 1972–I (BMNH); 1 ♂, Rio Longa, 4 mls, S. Lussusso, 8.iii.1972, at light, Southern African Expedition, B.M. 1972–I (BMNH); 1 ♂, Nova Lisboa (now Huambo), swept from a Leguminosae tree, 26.viii.1972, J. A. Quartau (author's collection); 1 ♂, Cacuso, Malanje, 22.ii.1970, at light, J. A. Quartau (author's collection). 1 ♀, Duque de Bragança Falls, 11–12.iii.1972, South African Expedition, B.M. 1972–I, at light, (BMNH) may also belong in this subspecies as referred to above.

The subspecies is named in honour of Dr J. G. Theron who kindly supplied the material of *I. d. drakensteini* here illustrated for comparative purposes. *I. d. theroni* is easily distinguished from *I. d. drakensteini* by the structure of the anal tube appendages which are roundedly curved at the basal level of the pygophore lobes in the former instead of being curved abruptly at the mid-level (Figs 2 & 15); a small dorsal denticle is present in the aedeagus of the new subspecies and absent in the aedeagus of the nominate form (Figs 14 & 16). The new subspecies is also easily distinguished from *I. d. monticolus* by its smaller size and by the anal tube appendages which are thinner and not expanded apically in the new subspecies.

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Figs 1–18. *Iassomorphus drakensteini theroni* subsp. nov. 1–3. Holotype male. 1. Terminal abdominal segments, left lateral view. 2. Right anal tube appendage, external view. 3. Left anal tube appendage, internal view. 4. Paratype male (Duque de Bragança Falls), right anal tube appendage, external view. 5. Paratype male (Rio Longa, S. Lussusso), right anal tube appendage, external view. 6. Paratype male (Nova Lisboa, now Huambo), right anal tube appendage, external view. 7. Paratype male (Cacuso), left anal tube appendage, external view. 8. Paratype male (Rio Longa, S. Lussusso), left anal tube appendage, external view. 9. Paratype male (Nova Lisboa, now Huambo), apex of left anal tube appendage, external view. 10–12. Holotype. 10. Aedeagus, right lateral view. 11. Subgenital plates, ventral view. 12. Connective and styles, ventral view. 13–14. Paratype male (Nova Lisboa, now Huambo). 13. Subgenital plates, ventral view. 14. Aedeagus, left lateral view. Scales in mm. *Iassomorphus drakensteini drakensteini* (Naudé) (South Africa, Paarl, 13.8.71, leg. J. G. Theron). 15. Right anal tube appendage, internal view. 16. Aedeagus, left lateral view. 17. Subgenital plates, ventral view. 18. Terminal abdominal segments, left lateral view. Scales in mm.

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